FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JULY 1985

Hajj Issue

King Fahd told a Saudi cabinet meeting that Saudi officials should "multiply efforts" to ensure the security, comfort, and safety of the pilgrims, the kingdom's information minister disclosed in a statement carried by SPA.

Iran-Iraq War

"Confirmed" enemy losses from two unsuccessful Iranian attacks on Iraqi positions in the northern front amount to 842 killed, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Nevertheless, an Iranian military statement cited by IRNA asserted that Iranian troops infiltrated Iraqi positions in the north, killing or wounding 300 Iraqi soldiers. Meanwhile, Iranian planes bombed communication lines inside Iraq, according to an Iranian Joint Staff announcement reported by Tehran Radio.

In another development, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn told a Kuwaiti delegation in an address carried by the Voice of the Masses that Iran is attempting to "blackmail" Kuwait, and he added that those Kuwaitis who are "for Kuwait and not for a foreign country must exercise their Arabism" while "those who do not exercise their Arabism must leave Kuwait."

Israel

The Cabinet decided in its 29 July meeting to establish a ministerial committee which will discuss the imposition of the death penalty and expulsion as punishments for terrorism, IDF radio reported, adding that the committee's conclusions will be submitted to the 4 August Cabinet session. Commenting on the recent attacks on Jews, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, in remarks cited by *MA'ARIV*, contended that "these people who are directing acts of terror are the same people organizing talks between the United States and the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation." Noting that Shamir reaffirmed Israel's objection to such talks in a letter sent to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz over the weekend, *MA'ARIV* disclosed that the letter was drafted without coordination with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who has "reservations" about Shamir's sharp language.

Libya

PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi concluded a "private" visit to Tripoli, during which he discussed the Palestinian question with officials in his capacity as an "untarnished" Palestinian figure, JANA announced. The agency's political editor confirmed that Qaddumi's visit does not signal any Libyan intention to meet with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat or one of his envoys, as Libya rejects the Husayn-'Arafat plan and meeting with those who meet with Egypt.

Sudan

The chairman of the Sudanese Federation of Trade Unions condemned efforts made by some parties, particularly Libya, to intervene in the affairs of Sudanese organizations, MENA reported, adding that such efforts will not succeed in influencing the freedom and independence of sudanese unions.

DRA

President Babrak Karmal returned home following an unofficial visit to the USSR for a "general medical check," Kabul radio announced.

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Karmal Returns from USSR Medical Check 29 Jul
LD291646 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who paid an unofficial visit to the USSR for a general medical check, returned home this afternoon.

At Kabul International Airport, Babrak Karmal was welcomed by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; members of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PDPA Central Committee; some members of the Party Central Committee, Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers of the DRA, and the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

'Strong' Earthquake Tremors Shake Kabul
LD291632 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Strong earthquake tremors were felt in Kabul today around noon. The Seismological Institute of the Natural Science Center of the DRA Academy of Sciences told the BAKHTAR information agency that today's earthquake was felt at 1225 local time and lasted for 4 minutes and 45 seconds. Its [words indistinct], that is its intensity under the ground was 5.6. The epicenter of the earthquake was 316 km from the seismological station. There has been no report yet of loss of life or property.

According to reports from international news agencies, quoting Strasbourg Physics Institute, intense earthquake tremors, 7.3 on the Richter scale, have been registered with its epicenter in the Hindu Kush mountains [in Afghanistan]. First signs indicated that the earthquake occurred on the borders of the Soviet Union, Afghanistan and Iran.

Kabul Protests Pakistan Aggression in Barikowt
LD291531 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The charge d'affaires of Pakistan's Embassy in Kabul was summoned to the Foreign Ministry at 1500 this afternoon and the following points were made to him by head of the First Political Department: According to information from the competent authorities of the DRA, at 1230 on 25 July Pakistani heavy artillery shelled the Arandu residential area of the Barikowt region, martyring one person and wounding two others.

The DRA Government strongly condemns this agression by the Pakistani Armed Forces and strongly protests to the Pakistani military government. It also points out that the Pakistani military authorities should end such aggression against the DRA, which has endangered security along the border, as soon as possible. Otherwise, the heavy consequences will rest with the military government of Pakistan.

In order to conceal their aggressive actions the Pakistani military authorities again alleged that an Afghan aircraft violated the airspace of northern Wazirestan on 16 July causing no damage. The DRA Government, after full investigation, regards this allegation by the military regime of Pakistan as untrue and resolutely rejects it. The DRA Government points out that the Pakistani authorities should end such accusations which serve to aggravate the situation between the two countries.

Pakistanis Clash With Rebels in Camps
LD291329 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 28, [date as received] BAKHTAR — The reports reaching here indicate that severe clashes erupted between Mashwani Wardak, Rogani Jam, Khale Der and Khedamat tribes on the one side and the Afghan counter-revolutionaries entrenched in Bare Amal Camp on the other. As a result of clashes, five counter-revolutionaries were killed and two Mashwani Wardak tribesmen were seriously injured.

The reports add that the Pakistani authorities, backing the Afghan counter-revolutionaries, tried to deceive the residents of Bare Amal by giving them forged assurances that the counter-revolutionaries will be transferred from Bare Amal. Moreover, the reports point out that the promises of the military authorities have not materialized since long. [as received]

The residents of Bare Amal once again cautioned the Pakistani circles that if the Afghan counter-revolutionaries are not expelled from their regions, its serious consequences will be born by the Pakistani military circles.

Anti-Rebel Operations in 3 Provinces Successful
LD291731 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a security forces source, reports that as a result of successful operations which were carried out in Kapisa Province, a number of the members of the criminal Jamiat and Eslami bands were crushed and 26 of them were wounded. The security forces have seized from the criminals 14 assorted weapons with a large quantity of ammunition, antipersonnel and antitank mines and a quantity of antistate documents. Similarly, during these operations large quantities of weapons and ammunition along with two DShK's and one food-stuffs store were destroyed.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations carried out in Nangarhar Province, 25 counterrevolutionary elements were crushed, 20 wounded and 17 were captured. The report adds that large quantities of assorted weapons have been seized from these professional murderers and one ZK-1 of the enemy has been destroyed.

Also, as a result of successful operations by the security forces in Karez-e Mir and the Araban village of Karez-e Bala in Kabul Province, 27 counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and 15 antipersonnel mines of the enemy were destroyed. The security forces have seized from these criminals 3 rocket-launchers, 1 mortar, 6 light weapons, 24 mines and 1200 rounds of assorted ammunition.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations carried out in the environs of Kapisa Province, a number of rebels were crushed and the security forces seized 1 DShK, 18 antitank mines, 52 boxes of DShK rounds and 2 communication sets.

Security Force Source Reports 6 Rebels Defect
LD292218 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] A DRA security force source reports that recently six deceived elements, formerly members of the criminal Jami'at-e Eslami band, surrendered themselves and their weapons to security forces in Fariab Province and pledged to defend the gains of the Sowr Revolution to the last breath.

Rebel Spokesman Interviewed on Soviet Occupation
AU271935 Rome ANSA in English 1929 GMT 27 Jul 85

[Text](ANSA) Rome, July 27 — Thousands of Afghan children are dying of illness every day to reduce their numbers "to a small percentage of the entire beleagured population," according to a spokeswoman for an Afghan resistance alignment, Gabriella Bruckmann, who also discussed the recent Soviet decision to broadcast footage of fighting in Afghanistan on state television.

In an interview published in the new edition of the Italian periodical, *PROSPETTIVE NEL MONDO*, Bruckmann charged that "genocide" is being practiced "to wipe my people off the face of the earth. These are the most recent data: 30 percent of our children die before the age of [words indistinct]. 60 percent of our entire population suffers from malaria. Out of the 12,000 Afghan doctors working before the Soviet invasion 200 have remained and they are forced to dig tunnels in the rock to shelter and sick and wounded," she said.

Speaking about the reason the Soviets recently began national television broadcasting of footage from Afghan, the resistance spokeswoman said: "Protests against the invasion making the rounds in the Soviet Union required a response from the authorities. The Soviet Union", she continued, "can no longer deny the war and is now broadcasting some scenes of it to get it accepted by the Soviets. The new footage appearing on television screens in Moscow is a victory for the Afghan resistance."

The resistance grouping spokesman also claimed that: "The Afghan resistance is now active in all provinces. We have hit the Gardez Airport and the major roads leading to Kabul. We are now witnessing the political exploitation of our Loya Jirga, our national people's assembly, by the Soviets. We will not allow ourselves to be exploited and the heads of the seven principal (resistance) alignments will form a single united Islamic organization of Afghanistan mujahidin which will be led on a rotating basis by a president put forward by each of the groups.

"It's a harsh but we intend to continue it so long as there is a single Afghan at home or abroad," she insisted.

Protocol Signed With USSR on Geodesy, Cartography
LD300631 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 29, BAKHTAR — a Protocol of scientific, economic and technical cooperation between the General Geodesy and Cartography Department of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the General Geodesy and Cartography of the Soviet Union was signed here today.

In accordance with this protocol in the years 1986 and 1987, the Soviet Union will cooperate with the DRA in various sections of cartography and geodesy, including photogrammetry, use of satellite photo materials, mutli-band photography, development and expansion of geodetic engineering and underground services, solution of photogrammetric problems with the help of computer technology and training of Afghan technical personnel in the USSR.

BAKHTAR Comments on Iran's Links with PRC, Japan
LD291342 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 28, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Majlis, house assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iran, after holding talks with Japanese militarists and Chinese hegemonists, stated that he and the Japanese and Chinese authorities became convinced that the position taken by Iran vis-a-vis the DRA has not changed and it is still hostile.

Rafsanjani added that Iran looks at Afghanistan in the same way as it does Israel. That is to say, he openly places the Afhgan Moslems in the line of the enemies of Islam, that is, Israeli Zionists.

It is one of the undeniable characteristics of the situation in the region that the reactionary rulers of Islam has the same position vis-a-vis the revolutionary Afghanistan as the Chinese hegemonism and the U.S. imperialism.

The existing collusion among the reactionaries of Iran, Pakistan and the Chinese hegemonists who follow the footprints of the U.S. imperialists vis-a-vis the DRA is testifying to the fact that Iran also participates in the imperialist undeclared war against independent sovereign and non-aligned Afghanistan. Iran like Pakistan supports, finances and arms the Afghan counter-revolution and sends them to Afghanistan.

The reaction of Iran which subjected the Iranian people to the oppressive rule of the medieval century and has imposed upon the Iranian people the futile war in the interest of the U.S. imperialism, in fact is following an antagonistic policy against the humane goals of the revolutions of Iran and Afghanistan. Iranian ruling regime which is ostensibly claiming to be in the position of struggling against the U.S. imperialism, in practice acts against the interests of the Moslem peoples of Iran and Afghanistan and pursues the same path as has been followed by the US imperialism.

The multi-million dollar deal of the ruling circles of Iran with the main capitalist countries and their closeness with the reactionary

and anti-people regimes such as General Zia's and the pro-American regime in Turkey are other indicators of the collusion between the reactionaries of Iran with the international reaction.

The rightist turn taken by the reactionary ruling circle of Iran has moved ahead in parallel with the expansion of its transactions with the forces such as Chinese hegemonism, Japanese militarism and the U.S. imperialism.

It is as a result of such anti-people's essence that the links of the Iranian ruling circles are expanding with the enemies of the peoples of Afghanistan and Iran.

The ruling circles of Iran by approaching itself towards the strategic objectives of Chinese hegemonism and the U.S. imperialism not only demonstrates its enmity with the freedom-loving people of Afghanistan but with the working people of Iran as well. [Sentence as received]

BAKHTAR Cites Agricultural Statistics for Herat

LD300629 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Kabul, July 29, BAKHTAR — Over 59,000 hectares of land have been cultivated wheat, cotton and other industrial cereals in Herat Province, west of the country in the spring cultivation campaign of the current Afghan year, begun March 21, 1985. This figure shows an increase of more than 4,000 hectares of cultivated land than the spring campaign of last year.

More than 700 tons of improved wheat, over 6,000 tons of chemical fertilizers, over 400 tons of cotton-seed, pesticides and insecticides worth of more than one million AFs (50 AFs equal one dollar), have been distributed to the peasants of that province.

Likewise, chemical fertilizers and improved seeds worth of over AFs 6,500,000 have been put at the disposal of the peasants by Agricultural Development Bank of the DRA as long-term loan.

Earthquake Reported in Northern Areas 29 Jul

BK290851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Many parts of northern India, including Chandigarh, Simla, Jammu, and other surrounding areas experienced earthquake tremors this afternoon. Our Simla correspondent reports that the tremor shook the town at 1328 [0758 GMT] and lasted about 2 minutes. However, no loss of life and property has been reported. In Jammu, people in several localities came out of their houses.

Reportage, Comment on Reaction to Punjab Accord

Longowal Unharmed in Temple Shooting

HK301052 Hong Kong AFP in English 1046 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Amritsar, India, July 30 (AFP) — Shots were fired inside the Sikh Golden Temple here today, shortly after moderate Sikh leader Sant Harchand Singh Longowal arrived there, eyewitnesses said. Mr Longowal was not injured, the eyewitnesses said. The moderate leader was to preside over a meeting of local leaders of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, in the temple complex in Punjab state, Sikhdom's holiest shrine.

Mr Longowal and the Indian Government signed an agreement on Wednesday to end a violent Sikh autonomy campaign, and the agreement was unanimously ratified by Mr Longowal's supporters Thursday. However, militant Sikhs have dismissed the agreement as a sellout, branding those supporting it traitors to the Sikh cause.

Supporters of the two factions clashed inside the Golden Temple with swords last week, although police said there were no known casualties. Sikh sources in Punjab said yesterday that the militants seemed to be in the ascendant at the temple.

50 Arrested

HK301136 Hong Kong AFP in English 1121 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Amritsar, India, July 30 (AFP) — Shots were fired in the Sikh Golden Temple here today as moderate Sikh leader Sant Harchand Singh Longowal was opening a meeting of his Akali Dal party, eyewitnesses said.

Journalists at the scene said nobody was hurt as about half a dozen shots were fired, apparently by supporters of Sikh militant leader Joginder Singh, from a temple in the complex facing the hall where the meeting was held. But about 15 people were hurt when fighting broke out afterwards between the rival Sikh groups at their holiest shrine, the journalists said. Police interviened to break up the scuffles, arresting about 50 people, they added, while shops in the area closed their doors.

Mr Longowal refused to comment on the incident, and continued the closed-door meeting with 25 local leaders of the Akali Dal inside the complex in Punjab state.

11 Persons Injured

BK301251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] In Amritsar today, there was a clash between supporters of the Akali Dal-Longowal and the group led by Mr Joginder Singh [militant faction]. Some people were injured. Both sides fired a number of rounds in the air. The trouble began when Mr Longowal arrived to address a party meeting in the Teja Singh Samundari Hall [in the Golden Temple complex]. Supporters of the rival Akali Dal raised slogans against him and showed black flags. They also tried to force their entry into the Teja Singh Samundari Hall. Police had to intervene to separate the indulging (?mobs). About 100 people were rounded up.

Speaking to newsmen, the general secretary of the Akali Dal-Longowal, Mr Balwant Singh Ahluwalia, condemned the incident and said 11 persons of his party were injured.

Opposing Sides Seek Control of Temples

HK290836 Hong Kong AFP in English 0820 GMT 29 Jul 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] Anandpur Sahib, India, July 29 (AFP) — Sikh militants and moderates, already split over an accord with the government, are gearing for a crucial and possibly violent struggle to control Punjab's Sikh temples, sources said here today.

The Sikh sources said the militants were likely to have an edge in efforts to dominate the shrines, the main source of funding for the top Sikh political party, the Akali Dal. "The moderates have all the leaders, but the militants, all the cadres," said a party worker. The Akali Dal has 2.2 million formal members. "The battle for the Sikh shrines is going to be a crucial factor in who will take the upper hand in Punjab", a government official said.

The party is split into militant and moderate factions, whose divisions sharpened last week when the moderates signed an accord with the government to end a violent Sikh autonomy campaign in Punjab. The militants, led by Joginder Singh, described as a "sellout" the agreement between Akali Dal chief Harchand Singh Longowal and Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi.

The two factions are already at work to form power base in the temples, Sikh sources said. Some feared the struggle would lead to violence. They said the main temple in this Punjab town, Keshgarh Sahib founded some 300 years ago, was effectively controlled by the moderates. They have held two important meetings here this month. But the militants seemed to be in the ascendant at the Golden Temple of Amrisar, the religion's holiest shrine. A source said it was unclear which faction had more numerical support there, but that "in the event of confrontation, the militants will rule as they are more organised and are firebrand type." Supporters of the two factions clashed inside the Golden Temple with swords last week, though police said there were no known casulties.

The militants got a shot in the arm when the head of the powerful Sikh Temple Committee, considered a moderate, reportedly said

he opposed the accord with the government. Militants were hoping committee chief Gurcharan Singh Tohra would be neutral, if not actually join them, said Gurbax Singh, a local member of the committee here. Another leading moderate, Former State Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal, also opposed the agreement according to some sources. But Mr Longowal has denied there was any dissent in the moderate camp. "For the Sikhs, politics, temples and religion are all the same," said a moderate here.

The finances for the Sikh autonomy campaign, which has cost 4,000 lives in four years, have come from among India's estimated 10,000 Sikh temples through donations from some of the country's 16 million Sikhs, and from Sikhs living abroad, source said. The Golden Temple alone attracts donations of 30 million rupees (2.5 million dollars) annually, they said. Every group of 15 or 20 Punjab villages has a Sikh shrine, or "gurdwara," and 108-Punjab towns have five to 15 shrines. There are 30 in New Delhi, and others scattered around the country.

The militants, many seeking outright independence for Punjab, rejected the agreement with Mr Gandhi as failing to get close to satisfying their demands. The accord referred the autonomy issue to a judicial commission, provided for compensation for Sikhs harmed by Army action in the state, and offered rehabilitation to Sikhs discharged from the army. It also said Chandigarh, joint capital of Punjab and neighbouring Haryana state, would be given exclusively to Punjab.

'Text' of Punjab Agreement

BK291303 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 25 Jul 85 p 5

["Text" of Rajiv Gandhi-Longowal accord on Punjab]

[Text] New Delhi, July 24 — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi placed the following Memorandum of Settlement on Punjab in the Parliament today:

1. Compensation to Innocent Persons Killed

1.1 Along with ex-gratia payment to those innocent killed in agitation or any action after 1.8.82, compensation for property damaged will also be paid.

2. Army Recruitment

2.1 All citizens of the country have the right to enroll in the Army and merit will remain the criterion for selection.

3. Enquiry into November Incidents

3.1 The jurisdiction of Mr Justice Ranganath Mishra, commissioner inquiring into the November riots of Delhi, would be extended to cover the disturbances at Bokaro and Kanpur also.

4. Rehabilitation of Those Discharged From the Army

4.1 For all those discharged, efforts will be made to rehabilitate and provide gainful employment.

5. All India Gurdwara Act

5.1 The Government of India agrees to consider the formulation of an All India Gurdwara Bill. Legislation will be brought forward for this purpose in consultation with Shiromani Akali Dal, others concerned and after fulfilling all relevant constitutional requirements.

6. Disposal of Pending Cases

6.1 The notifications applying the Armed Forces Special Powers Act to Punjab will be withdrawn. Existing Special Courts will try only cases relating to the following type of of offences: (a) waging war, (b) hijacking.
6.2 All other cases will be transferred to ordinary courts and enabling legislation if needed will be brought forward in this session of Parliament.

7. Territorial Claims

7.1 The Capital Project Area of Chandigarh will go to Punjab. Some adjoining areas which were previously part of Hindi or the Punjabi regions were included in the Union Territory. With the capital region going to Punjab the areas which were added to the Union Territory from the Punjabi region of the erstwhile State of Punjab will be transferable to Punjab and those from Hindi region to Haryana. The entire Sukhna Lake will be kept as part of Chandigarh and will thus go to Punjab.
7.2 It had always been maintained by Mrs Indira Gandhi that when Chandigarh is to go to Punjab some Hindi-speaking territories in Punjab will go to Haryana. A commission will be constituted to determine the specific Hindi-speaking areas of Punjab which should go to Haryana, in lieu of Chandigarh. The principle of contiguity and linguistic affinity with a village as a unit will be the basis of such determination. The commission will be required to give its findings by 31st December, 1985 and these will be binding on both sides. The work of the commission will be limited to this aspect and will be distinct from the general boundary claims which the other commissioin referred to in Para 7.4 will handle.

7.3 The actual transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab and areas in lieu thereof to Haryana will take place simultaneously on 26th January, 1986.
7.4 There are other claims and counter-claims for readjustment of the existing Punjab-Haryana boundaries. The government will appoint another commission to consider these matters and give its findings. Such findings will be binding on the concerned states. The terms of reference will be based on a village as a unit, linguistic affinity and contiguity.

8. Centre-State Relations

8.1 Shiromani Akali Dal states that the Anandpur Sahib Resolution is entirely within the framework of the Indian Constitution, that it attempts to define the concept of centre-state relations in a manner which may bring out the true federal characteristics of our Unitary Constitution; and that the purpose of the resolution is to provide greater autonomy to the state with a view to strengthening the unity and integrity of the country,

since unity in diversity forms the corner-stone of our national entity.
8.2 In view of the above, the Anandpur Sahib Resolution in so far as it deals with centre-state relations, stands referred to the Sarkaria Commission.

9. Sharing of River Waters

9.1 The farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan will continue to get water not less then what they are using from the Ravi-Beas system as on 1/7/1985. Waters used for consumptive purposes will also remain unaffected. Quantum of usage claimed shall be verified by the Tribunal referred to in Para 9.2 below.
9.2 The claims of Punjab and Haryana regarding the shares in their remaining waters will be referred for adjudication to a tribunal to be presided over by a Supreme Court judge. The decision of this tribunal will be rendered within six months and would be binding on both parties, all legal and constitutional steps required in this respect be taken expeditiously.
9.3 The construction of the SYL canal shall continue. The canal shall be completed by 15th August 1986.

10. Representation of Minorities

10.1 Existing instructions regarding protection of interests of minorities will be recirculated to the State Chief Ministers. (PM will write to all Chief Ministers).

11. Promotion of Punjabi Language

11.1 The Central Government may take some steps for the promotion of the Punjabi language.

This settlement brings to an end a period of confrontation and ushers in an era of amity, goodwill and cooperation, which will promote and strengthen the unity and integrity of India.

[Signed] Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Minister of India

Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, President Shiromani Akali Dal

Dated, the 24th July, 1985

Rajasthan Rejects No-Confidence Motion

BK291619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The Rajasthan Assembly today rejected by voice vote a no-confidence motion against the Harideo Joshi Ministry. It was moved by the leader of the opposition, Mr Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, and three others. Initiating the debate, Mr Shekhawat said the motion has been brought because the chief minister has not given categorical assurance that the agreement of 1955 and 1981 on sharing the Rabi-Beas water will not be reopened [under Punjab accord]. The chief minister, Mr Joshi, reiterated his belief that the interests of the state are safe. He refuted the charge that they have been undermined by the Punjab accord. After the motion was rejected, the entire opposition walked out announcing the boycott of the house for the rest of the session. The house was later adjourned sine die.

Inquiry Ordered on Haryana Chief Minister

BK300434 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Mr Justice Jaswant Singh, retired judge of the Supreme Court, has been asked to make a preliminary enquiry into the allegations made against the Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, by some members of Parliament and the state assembly. The memorandum containing the allegations was handed over to the prime minister on the 4th of this month.

According to an official press release in New Delhi, the memorandum and the comments of the chief minister along with other papers given by him have been forwarded to Mr Justice Jaswant Singh. He has been asked to give his report soon to enable the government to take a decision on further action.

Reportage on Upcoming Indo-Pakistani Talks

Talks on Nuclear Arms, Sikhs

HK290750 Hong Kong AFP in English 0738 GMT 29 Jul 85

[By Govindan Unny]

[Text] New Delhi, July 29 (AFP) — Talks here tomorrow between Indian and Pakistani foreign secretaries are to focus on Pakistan's reported work on a nuclear bomb and India's charges that Islamabad aids Sikh terrorists, official sources said today.

Pakistani Foreign Secretary Niaz Naik is due here this evening for two days of talks with India's Romesh Bhandari. The two men last met officially in April in Islambadad for extensive discussions on all aspects of bilateral relations. They also met informally in Bhutan at the South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC) foreign ministers' meeting in May.

India's anxiety over a Pakistani nuclear bomb has grown since a reported statement on July 15 by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, asserting Pakistan's right to make such a weapon. Gen. Zia was quoted by the London-based *ARABIA* magazine as saying Pakistan would refuse to bow to U.S. pressure not to make the bomb when Washington failed to push Israel, South Africa or India to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, according to PRESS TRUST of INDIA.

During previous discussions with India both formal and informal Pakistan has denied that it had any plans to develop nuclear bomb capability. The issue is once again expected to figure high on the talks agenda tomorrow, along with Indian allegations that Pakistan is aiding Sikh extremists in the border state of Punjab.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi evidently had General Zia's statement in mind when he told an agitated Indian Parliament last week that India would have to react if Pakistan made the bomb. At least one major political party, the right wing Bharatiya Janata Party, openly asked the government to make the weapon even before Pakistan did. Pakistan has suggested a pact between the two countries for mutual inspection of each other's nuclear facilities but India has turned it down.

india has been accusing Pakistan, although Pakistan has denied it, of setting up training camps and supplying arms to Sikh militants across the border. With the signing of an agreement on the Sikh autonomy issue last week between Mr Gandhi and moderate Sikh Akali leader Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, India is hoping to isolate the Sikh militants and eventually eliminate them from strategic Punjab, the sources said.

Other issues due to come up in the Naik-Bhandari talks are proposals for a non-agression pact mooted by Pakistan and a treaty of friendship and cooperation raised by India. The two governments have had a series of talks on the proposals during the last two years without making much headway. Two points which blocked progress were the Indian insistence on a mutual commitment not to lease bases or offer military facilities to third countries, and Pakistan's demand that it retain the right to raise the issue of Kashmir before the United Nations. The two countries fought two wars over the northwestern territory in 1948 and 1965.

The sources did not expect any tangible progress on the non-aggression pact and friendship treaty ideas in this week's talks as the central issue to the improvement of relations now was the nuclear bomb.

On the positive side the two governments have agreed to improve coopration in the fields of communications, tourism, sports and agriculture at a meeting of a joint commission held in Delhi early this month. The two neighbours are also committed to enhancing regional cooperation through the platform of SARC which is due to hold its summit in Dhaka in December. Apart from India and Pakistan the partners in SARC are Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Pakistani Foreign Secretary Arrives

BK291606 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] A Pakistani delegation led by Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik arrived in New Delhi for talks with the Indian foreign secretary on the Pakistani proposal for a no-war pact and the Indian proposal for a treaty of peace, friendship, and cooperation. The talks begin in the Indian captal tomorrow.

On arrival in the Indian capital, the delegation leader said resolving differences through nonuse of force and the elimination of the possibility of war will boost mutual trust and open an era of good-neighborly relations between the two countries. He said this is in line with the objective of maintaining peace in the region and will conform to the aspirations of the Pakistani people.

Talks Begin 30 Jul

BK300901 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Talks between the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan began in New Delhi this morning. The two delegations discussed bilateral relations and international issues. The talks will continue in the afternoon and tomorrow. Earlier, the Pakistan foreign secretary, Mr Niaz Naik, called on his Indian counterpart Mr Romesh Bhandari.

PATRIOT: Pakistan, PRC Coordinate Military Moves

BK280806 Delhi PATRIOT in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] Pakistan is coordinating its military activities with China in a bid to capture the strategic Siachin glacier in the Ladakh region, reports UNI. According to defence experts, Paksitan's intention is to take advantageous positions in the Siachin glacier and then secure a common border with China to facilitate closer military link-up in the event of a war with India.

There is evidence of Pakistan and China jointly undertaking some reconnaissance missions over the Siachin glacier and the Nubra Valley. This has been further confirmed by the prestigious *JANES DEFENCE WEEKLY* which has in its latest issue said that on 29 May, four Pakistan Air Force fighters and two Chinese Air Force jet fighters intruded into the Indian air space and flew over the Siachin glacier and the Nubra Valley on a military photo reconnaissance mission. Pakistani troops have recently stepped up their activities along the 74-km long glacier and the Pakistani military intelligence activities around the area have also increased noticeably, experts said. Lt Gen M.L. Chibber, CIC of the Northern Army Command, has warned the officers and men in Jammu that Pakistan was out to create trouble for India. So far Pakistani planes have five times violated Indian air space in the Siachin glacier region.

Pak designs, aggression: Defence experts said that Pakistan which started systematic expeditions to the glacier area in 1978, is now committing aggression against India in this region by periodically sending its armed troops to capture some peaks. India has opened 11 peaks in this region to Indian and foreign mountaineers. India has already named a peak north-west of the glacier as "Indira Col". It has notified mountaineering clubs in the country and abroad that the 11 peaks opened to expeditioners are Saser Kangri, Kamostong Kangri, Rimo Peak, Apsarasas, Teram Kangri, Singhi Kangri, Indira Col, Sia Kangri, Ghaint, Karakoram Pass and Siachin glacier.

To achieve its geostrategic aims, Pakistan is now trying to occupy the area near Karakoram Pass which will enable it to dominate the Nubra Valley and the routes going down to Leh. Pakistan wants to capture the "Indira Col" which is a wedge between its illegally-occupied parts of Kashmir and the 4,500 km of territory it had illegally ceded to China. With the capture of "Indira Col' Pakistan could establish a common border with China. Since this area is undemarcated Pakistan was now trying to claim it. It is allowing foreign expeditions in this area as a screen to cover its military plans to push forward. India has made it known that it would not allow this mountain poaching via Pakistan.

Special snow force: Reports have come in that Pakistan is setting up special snow warfare force which contains the elements of the Northern Light Infantry, and the Special Services Group (SSG). It was making these efforts also with the aim to weaken India's stand at the border talks with China. It is expected that this subject would come up at the foreign secretary-level talks being held in New Delhi between India and Pakistan on 26 July.

Defence experts said that Pakistan moves in the Siachin glacier area had to be carefully watched since Pakistan had always invaded India from northwest. This is Pakistan's traditional invasion route. The Indian Army was now studying all Pakistani build-up north of Nubra Valley.

Reportage on Visit of Trinidad-Tobago Minister

Arrives 29 Jul

BK290439 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr George Michael Chambers, was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived in New Delhi this morning on a 4-day state visit. He was received by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan.

Mr Chambers told AIR [All India Radio] correspondent, Mohan Singh, that he will discuss with Mr Rajiv Gandhi the ensuring Commonwealth meeting later this year in Nassau in the Bahamas. Their talks will also cover economic and trade issues, he said. Mr Chambers will call on the president, the vice president, and have talks with the prime minister. Mr Chambers is accompanied by his external affairs minister, Mr Errol Mahabir, and the minister for industry, commerce and consumer affairs, Mr Wendell Mottley.

Holds Talks With Gandhi

BK290945 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The visiting prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr Michael Chambers had talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today. The two prime ministers discussed bilateral matters in the context of increasing trade, the situation in the region and the issues likely to come up at the October meeting of the Commonwealth heads of government. Mr Chambers who is accompanied by the external affairs minister, Mr Errol Mahabir and the minister for industry, commerce and consumer affairs, Mr Wendell Mottley, arrived in the capital early this morning. He will call on the president, and the vice president during his 3-day stay.

The delegations of the two countries also held separate meeting and agreed to further strengthen cooperation, particularly in the economic fields and commerce. The Indian side was headed by the finance minister, Mr V.P. Singh, while the minister for industry and commece of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr Mottley, led his country's side at the talk.

Gandhi Banquet Remarks

BK300408 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] The prime minister has called for greater solidarity among developing countries for withstanding the impact of international crises and pressures from the developed world. Mr Rajiv Gandhi was speaking at a dinner in honor of the visiting prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr George Michael Chambers, in New Delhi.

He said if we are united, we will be able to secure our interests. He hoped that the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation to be signed during Mr Chamber's stay in India will open up new vistas of cooperation.

Lok Sabha Hears Stand on U.S. 'Mercenary' School

BK291427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] India has urged Washington to close down the mercenary schools in the United States or regulate them to ensure that they do not impart training to terrorists. The minister of state for external affairs told the Lok Sabha today, that New Delhi cannot subscribe to the U.S. Government's view that these schools are working within the legal framework. Mr Khurshid Alam Khan said such legalistic approach to terrorism is deplorable and disappointing. The U.S. Government should make suitable legislative provisions to curb such activities. He was replying to a special discussion on the reported training given to Indian terrorists by a mercenary school in Alabama.

He pointed out that the White House had threatened stern action against any terrorist act toward the United States. But it is strange that it should adopt a different approach in a case of terrorism directed against other countries.

Further Details

BK291630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Excerpts] India has urged Washington to close down the mercenary schools in the United States or regulate them to ensure that they do not impart training to terrorists. The minister of state for external affairs [Khurshid Alam Khan] told the Lok Sabha today that New Delhi cannot subscribe to the U.S. Government's view that these schools are working within the legal framework.

Mr Khan regretted that some other countries like Britain, Canada, and West Germany have also been overindulging in the matter relating to terrorists and extremists. They have been told of the serious concern and that India will not compromise on the subject.

The minister especially stressed the necessity for exchange of information among neighboring countries about terrorist activities. He was unhappy that some of our neighboring countries do not cooperate with us in this regard. He said the process of trial of hijackers of Indian aircraft in Pakistan has been painfully slow.

Referring to the activities of Indian terrorists abroad, he said they should realize that they cannot solve any issue by remaining outside. They must come to India and talk to us if they think they have a problem.

Earthquake Causes Two Deaths, Avalanches

BK291554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Many parts of the country were rocked by a strong earthquake this afternoon. The earthquake tremors lasted for a few seconds. The Chitral deputy commisioner told Radio Pakistan's Peshawar correspondent by telephone this evening that so far two persons have been killed and two others injured in incidents in which houses collapsed in Danin and Orghud villages near Chitral. Damage has been caused to several buildings in the district, but the extent of damage could not be assessed immediately due to disrupted telephone lines. He said teams are being dispatched to remote areas to assess the damage caused by the earthquake.

According to Radio Pakistan's Gilgit representative, a large number of avalanches have occurred in the mountains around Gilgit due to the earthquake, but there is no report of any loss of life or property thus far.

Minister Explains Cooperation Agreement With EEC

BK291207 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The 5-year agreement signed between Pakistan and the European Economic Community [EEC] provides for expanded cooperation in the fields of science, technology, agriculture, industry, fisheries, and industrial joint ventures. This was stated by the federal minister for commerce, Mr Salim Saifullah Khan, while giving details of the agreement at a news conference in Islamabad today. He had signed the agreement on behalf of Pakistan on the 23d of this month in Brussels.

He said the commissioner of the EEC commission, Mr Claude Cheysson, had assured that the community would favorably consider reduction in import duty on Pakistani Basmati rice, removal of country quota on canvas shoes, and larger market access to Pakistani textiles. The minister said the EEC was assisting Pakistan in the export of engineering goods, leather and leather products, gems and jewelry. The EEC had also assured more development aid to Pakistan in the form of grants for the development of rural areas.

He said the EEC expressed appreciation of Pakistan's stand on the Afghanistan problem and assured that it would not only continue its assistance for the Afghan refugees but also try to increase it.

Minister Says Shi'ites Freed in Quetta 23 July

GF291627 Karachi DAWN in English 24 Jul 84 p 8

[Text] Rawalpindi, July 23: Federal Law Minister Iqbal Ahmad Khan has said that a large number of ulema and other Shi'as arrested recently in Quetta were freed on Tuesday. The Minister told *DAWN* on telephone that he held a long meeting with Prime Minister Junejo on his arrival here, to apprise him of the gathering of Shi'as in Islamabad.

Shi'a leaders have vowed to continue their protest meetings in Islamabad till the acceptance of their demands, which the Law Minister said have no moral or legal justification.

Asked whether there would be any meeting between the Prime Minister and Shi'a leaders, the Law Minister said he was not aware of any such plan.

The Minister said he had asked the ulema and their followers to end their protest and return homes. He added that the situation was fully under control.

Benazir Bhutto Determined To Bury Brother in Larkana

AU261516 Paris AFP in English 1500 GMT 26 Jul 85

[By Denis Brulet]

[Excerpts] London, July 26 (AFP) — The Pakistani dissident community-in-exile here seized upon the return today of their leader Benazir Bhutto to mourn the death of her brother, youngest son of former Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Dozens of Pakistani in mourning dress took turns kneeling before Miss Bhutto, leader of the opposition Pakistani Peoples Party (PPP), which is banned in Pakistan.

Wearing a black veil, sitting on a carpet in a corner of a small room of her flat, Miss Bhutto, who lives in London but has been in France since her brother's death, spoke softly to the mourners, her speech sometimes cut short as she sobbed. Most of the mourners left the room in tears.

"I had to come to see these peoples," she explained. "They wanted to come to France." Her mother, she said is "heartbroken" and she herself is confused. "I don't understand," she said. "I don't understand."

Miss Bhutto today said she planned to fly home in two weeks' time with the body of her brother. "I want to bury my brother in the land of his forefathers," she said, referring to the town of Larkana, 320 kms (200 miles) north of Karachi. "It has nothing to do with politics," she added. "He has the right to be buried in his country."

Miss Bhutto, who was imprisoned for 34 months in Pakistan before being allowed to come to London in January, 1984 for medical treatment, said about returning to her native land: "Risk or no risk, I'm going back. He has the right to be buried in his own country and I intend to fulfil my responsibilities."

NEPAL

Bombings Seen as 'Blessing' for Prime Minister

HK250800 Hong Kong AFP in English 0706 GMT 25 Jul 85

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, July 25 (AFP) — The bombings which rocked Nepal last month killing eight people have proved a blessing in disguise for Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand by silencing the opposition, analysts here said.

The June 20 and 21 blasts, in which 22 people were also injured, have forced opposition groups, including the banned Nepali Congress, to withdraw their vociferous campaign against the country's partyless Panchayat legislature system, the analysts said. Equally, even strong critics of Mr. Chand within the Panchayat system have now muted their voices, fearing that opposition to Mr. Chand would be detrimental to the 25 years old partyless system.

Analysts said that Mr. Chand, although not considered either a charismatic figure or a strong administrator, was likely to remain in office at least until May next year when a general election is scheduled.

The group of legislators who support former Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, this week dropped a no-confidence motion which they had been planning against the two-year-old Chand government. The abandonment came after Nawa Raj Subedi, the most trusted minister in the ousted Thapa administration, led a walkout of half a dozen other legislators from the Thapa camp, virtually crippling the anti-Chand grouping. Analysts said that Mr. Subedi could only contend to replace Mr. Chand as the Himalayan Kingdom's prime minister if he were seen to be outside the former premier's faction.

A press statement issued by Mr. Subedi together with a group of fellow-legislators, made clear his criticisms of the functioning of Mr. Chand's government but also showed he had distanced himself from the Thapa group, the analysts added. Sources close to Mr. Subedi said there was a strong chance of his being named deputy premier under Mr. Chand in a major cabinet reshuffle predicted after the legislature closes its budget session in five weeks' time. Several ministers are likely to be dropped to lend a clean image to the Chand government before next May's general election, analysts said, adding that at least four or five persons from Mr. Subedi's group were likely to be inducted.

One thorny issue which seems set to test Mr. Chand's diplomacy is the problem of who is to build a 205-kilometer (127 mile) stretch of road in the far southwest of the country. Among a dozen international bidders, a Chinese road and bridge construction company has secured a letter of intent for building all four sub-sectors of the road, which is financed by the Saudi Fund for Development, the World Bank and the Nepalese Government. But India, whose construction concern came fifth in the tenders, has started pressuring Katmandu not to allow the Chinese to near the Indian border in sensitive northeastern areas and has even offered to build the road as free aid, sources said.

Political observers have said that if Mr. Chand can tackle this problem without injuring Nepal's traditional friendship with China, he stands an excellent chance of holding on to the premiership until the May polls.

SRI LANKA

2 Indian Ships Said Abducted by Tamil Terrorists

BK300203 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] It is believed that Sri Lankan Tamil terrorists have abducted two cargo ships at sea near the Trincomalee coast. LANKA PUWATH NEWS AGENCY, quoting Indian sources, says that the Maritime Union of India, the headquarters of which is in Bombay, has requested an inquiry into the two missing ships, both of which belong to the same shipping company.

The two ships suddenly disappeared along with the crew, and the Maritime Union of India shipping company's Calcutta office says it is presumed that the Sri Lankan Tamil separatists are responsible for the abduction of the ships. Both the cargo ships of 5,000 tons were near Trincomalee in late June.

Government Affirms Bhutan as Talks Site

HK290740 Hong Kong AFP in English 0703 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Colombo, July 29 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government plans to keep Bhutan as the site for peace talks with Tamil separatists, reliable sources said here today, denying an Indian press report that Colombo was unhappy with the venue. The sources said the second round of talks scheduled to begin August 12 would definitely by held as planned in Thimpu, capital of the Himalayan kingdom.

(PRESS TRUST of INDIA (PTI) news agency yesterday in New Delhi quoted Tamil sources as saying Colombo was unhappy with Thimpu as a venue, because of certain "outside interference" there in the first round earlier this month.)

The sources here told AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE that Colombo had no complaints of any such interference. The talks are aimed at ending Sri Lanka's bloody separatist crisis, in which Tamils are fighting for independence for northern and eastern regions from the island's Sinhala majority. "The only difficulty about Bhutan is the long car drive from the airport to Thimpu which takes about six hours," the sources said.

The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), the main Tamil political party attending the talks together with five militant separatist groups, also said today there would be no change of venue.

Meanwhile, another informed source said that the Colombo delegation led by President Junius Jayewardene's lawyer brother, Harry Jayewardene, wanted the Tamils to put forward settlement proposals at the next round. At the first round, the six Tamil groups jointly rejected a government plan for greater

autonomy for the Tamil areas. The Tamils did not produce any plan of their own, though invited to do so, the sources said. They did however lay down four principles which they said should be reflected in any settlement. These included recognition of the Tamil's right to self determination, and recognition of a "traditional (Tamil) homeland" in certain areas.

Mr Harry Jayewardene said after the round that acceptance of those two principles would be inconsistent with the notion of a united Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile India's High Commissioner to Colombo J.N. Dixit left for New Delhi yesterday for expected consultations with Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi on the Thimpu talks, sources said. Mr Dixit had met here with President Jayewardene and Mr Harry Jayewardene at the weekend.

High Commission on Venue

BK300430 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Preparations are on for the resumption of talks between the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil groups at Thimpu in Bhutan on the 12th of next month. The Sri Lankan high commission in New Delhi has denied a report that their government was having second thoughts about Thimpu having been selected as the venue of talks.

Minister: Setbacks Forced Terrorists to Talks

BK291221 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] The strength of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces and police should not be underestimated. It was the strength of the Armed Forces which persuaded the terrorist groups to come to the negotiating table at Thimpu. This was stated by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, while addressing a religious function held at the Dandaniya Rajamabivara yesterday. The minister added that the security arrangments were being strengthened every day to face any challenge from the terrorists. Mr Athulathmudali referring to the statements by said terrorist leaders that they were taking part in the Thimpu talks in response to a request from the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, asked what else they could say when they face imminent defeat in the encounters with our Armed Forces.

The minister referring further to certain matters raised by the Mahasangha [Buddhist clergy] at the meeting said that the president was of the view that the cooperation with India was essential to resolve the ethnic problem. A few years ago nobody thought that India would come forward against the terrorists. But we were able to earn India's goodwill and cooperation through appropriate policies toward India. This was a strategy adopted by our ancient kings in times of crisis.

In this world of complexity we have to face numerous problems which were not even thought of in the past. When some incidents occurred in Jaffna during the past few days, the security forces acted with restraint so as not to go against the agreed cessation of hostilities. Mr Athulathmudali emphasized that everybody should act intelligently to resolve the present crisis.

Civilians in Pakistan for Military Training

HK300612 Hong Kong AFP in English 0542 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] Colombo, July 30 (AFP) — Civilian volunteers have been sent to Pakistan for military training to provide protection against militant Tamil separatists in Sri Lanka's north and east, authoritative sources here said today. But the sources denied a report yesterday in the English-language India daily, *THE HINDU*, that Sri Lanka had sent military men to Pakistan to begin training in anti-insurgency techniques in about two weeks.

The newspaper said in a dispatch datelined Madras that the first batch of 30 officers would be put through a crash program lasting four weeks and 200 soldiers would undergo an eight-week program. But the authoritative sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that no Armed Forces personnel or policemen had been sent to Pakistan for such training. "Those who have gone to Pakistan are civilians who will form what is known as the national auxiliary force. They will not be members of the Armed Forces or police," the sources said. They said that the group sent to Pakistan was a first batch and more volunteers would follow.

The government decided to train volunteers following attacks by Tamil militants on farms and fishing hamlets in which nearly 100 persons were killed, the sources said. They said they aim to provide protection to non-Tamil settlers in the north and east where Tamils are campaigning for a separate state, claiming discrimination at the hands of the Sinhalese majority.

The government prepared a plan to recruit volunteer settlers and provide them with basic weapons training. It also decided to appoint home guards to provide protection to villages. The sources said that it is some of these volunteers who have been sent to Pakistan for training in weapons handling and "static defence."

Several Sinhala settlers and workers in the north and east have been reportedly kidnapped, presumably by Tamil militants, since the government and five major separatist groups agreed to a ceasefire on June 18, informed sources said. They said that the intention appeared to be to frighten non-Tamil civilians away from what the separatists consider "traditional (Tamil) homelands," the sources added.

The sources said that during the peace talks between the Colombo government and six Tamil groups in Bhutan earlier this month, some Tamils charged that troops had been sent to Pakistan for anti-guerrilla training. But, they added, these were in fact the civilian volunteers.

A two-member government team left for India yesterday for discussions connected with the granting of greater autonomy to the Tamil areas, informed sources said today.

Lawyer S.L. Gunasekera, who was on the government delegation to talks in Bhutan this month with Tamil groups, and Deputy Inspector General of Police Tyrrel Goonetilleke are expected to

discuss with Indian officials the powers of the state police and the role of the central government in maintaining law and order, the sources added. Among the powers being demanded by some Tamil groups as an alternative to an independent state is a separate police force for the north and east. The government turned down the demand during a national conference of political parties and religious groups which met several times last year trying to find a solution to the conflict.

Reliable sources said the government is now considering allowing a separate police force for the north under a general autonomy plan intended to give greater powers to the Tamils. But the government is against permitting an armed police which could rouse fears among major Sinhala political parties and Buddhist groups, the sources said.

Tehran University Detects Earthquake 'Outside Iran'

LD291023 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — An earthquake with an intensity of 7 degrees on the Richter scale was registered by the Geophysics Institute of Tehran University at 11:28 local time Monday. The earthquake shook an area of 1650 km northeast of Tehran, outside Iran, the report said.

Oil Minister Discusses OPEC Session With Khomeyni

LD291742 Tehran IRNA in English 1719 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — Iranian oil minister, Mohammad Gharazi met with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran Monday morning. At this meeting, the Imam was briefed on the recent OPEC conference.

Price Cut 'Strain on OPEC'

LD261635 Tehran IRNA in English 1501 GMT 26 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 26, IRNA — Iran's Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi stated today that the demand for OPEC's oil in the world markets is reasonable and that the recent cut in the oil prices was merely a "strain on OPEC."

Gharazi who was speaking with IRNA upon his arrival from the OPEC conference in Geneva added that almost all the members were against the decrease in the prices. "What caused the decision was Saudi Arabia's pressure and the organization's effort to preserve coordination among the members. Iran would have agreed with a decrease in the heavy oil prices, demanded by Saudi Arabia and some other members if it was advanced with a simultaneous rise in the price of light oil so as to maintain a regular OPEC income."

Gharzi referred to the changing effects of different season on the market and said: "The price of fuel oil is under pressure now but the demand for it will rise near the cold season and some other product will then suffer the same pressure. We believe that OPEC should not neglect these seasonal effects on the market," Gharazi said.

Iran's oil minister termed the present demands in the market as "reasonable" and said that the production ceiling is stable at 16 million bpd [barrels per day]. "The recent 35 cents rise per barrel for the west Texas crude oil is indicative of the exisitng demand in the market."

During the 74th OPEC conference, the prices of heavy oil and the average oil prices were decreased by 50 cents and 20 cents respectively. Iran, Algeria and Libya opposed the decision.

Meets With Majlis Speaker

LD291325 Tehran IRNA in English 0808 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) Hojj. Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Sunday met with the Islamic Republic's Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi and received a report on the latest OPEC ministerial session.

The oil minister told Mr. Rafsanjani that during the OPEC meet, Iraq had asked for an increase in her production quota and Saudis proposed a decrease in the price of heavy oil. The Iranian delegation protested against the Iraqi request reasoning that if OPEC wanted to reduce its production ceiling so as to stabilize oil prices, how could a member ask for increase in her production quota, he said.

Then the Majlis speaker stressed that the Islamic Republic should try to stabilize oil prices. He said that Iran's production quota was not at all equitable but it was accepted in order to preserve OPEC's unity. He then expressed the hope that other OPEC members would preserve OPEC's unity with their rational decisions.

IRNA Reports Hajj Seminar Proceedings in Beirut

LD282157 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 28 Jul 85

[Text] Beirut, July 28, IRNA — The regional hajj seminar in Lebanon started work Sunday at Beirut's Bristol Hotel with more than 150 participants from Tunisia, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon and the Persian Gulf countries.

In an interview with IRNA, Shaykh Mohammad Mehdi Shams al-Din, vice-speaker of Lebanon's Shi'ite Islamic Assembly who is participating in the gathering praised the seminar for providing the Islamic officials and theologians with an occasion to discuss the problems of the Muslim world. Also attending the seminar was distinguished Lebanese theologian, Alama Fadlallah who explained two benefits of such seminars: "The first is drawing the attention of the Muslim public opinion to hajj issues and the other is providing the grounds for a worldwide unity among Muslims."

Fadlallah expressed the hope that the seminar would provide Lebanon's Muslim people with an opportunity to learn about the Islamic revolution and the conspiracies of the world arrogance against this revolution.

First Pilgrimage Group Leaves for Jeddah

GF300750 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] The first group of pilgrims left Tehran yesterday for Jeddah amid ceremonies attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Khatami, Islamic guidance minister; Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi, the imam's representative and the official in charge of affairs for Iranian pilgrims; Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'iniha, chief state prosecutor; and Hojjat ol-Eslam Emame-e-Jamarani, the imam's representative in the pilgrimage organization.

During these ceremonies, Islamic Guidance Minister Khatami stated: After the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the pilgrimage restored its prestige which the Almighty desired. The divine rule should be dominant because it ensures the faithful their

dignity. What does not fall under this category serves the imprialist powers in the world.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi, the imam's representative and the official in charge of the Iranian pilgrims, said: Hajj is one of the important rites in Islam. The Muslims in this great gathering are supposed to think of political issues and the problems which the Islamic world is facing. He then referred to the important role of the Islamic Revolution on hajj rites. He stressed that after the victory of Islamic revolution in Iran, the hajj issue brought fear and panic in the atheists and aggressor powers despite the obstacles that faced this issue. Concluding, he said: Political meetings, demonstrations, and expressions of rage and anger against the dominating powers will go hand in hand with hajj rites.

Radio Iran on Saudi Position

GF291757 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 27 Jul 85

[Text] Last night an aircraft carrying the first group of ill-famed ruffians, consisting of some members of the security organization, some members of the security organization, some members of the Islamic Revolution Party, and more than 50 members of the Guards Corps, who were being sent to the house of God as pilgrims, was refused permission to land at the Jeddah airport and the pilot was ordered to leave Saudi air space. According to their original program, it had been decided to send more groups of terrorists of the Islamic regime in the next few days to Saudi Arabia. On the basis of a calculated plot hatched by the independent 110 Brigade several terrorists had been instructed to create unrest in the house of God. Informed circles say that the security police of Saudi Arabia, which learned of this plan and knew the identity of all passengers on the aircraft, decided that by taking a serious and unprecedented step they would prevent the arrival of those persons in Saudi Arabia.

It was said that Tehran government circles did not expect such a reaction from the Riyadh regime and since their political plot against the Government of Saudi Arabia had been foiled at the very outset, they were very disturbed.

The terrorist plot of the Tehran regime in the hajj ceremonies became known secretly by a member of the Iran national resitance front, led by Bakhtiar, and was revealed to the people of the world. According to this document it was revealed that a huge amount of arms had been stock-piled by the clergy led by Ruhollah Khomeyni, the 87-year-old leader of the Islamic Republic, and they intended to send 15,000 mercenary guards to Saudi Arabia after giving them the necessary training so that they could create a bloodbath at the place most sacred to Muslims. It seems that they intended to cause bomb explosions among the pilgrims and then create disturbances in the streets in the cities of Mecca and Medina.

Terrorist groups in Lebanon had been asked to prepare some of the most experienced terrorists and saboteurs to leave for Saudi Arabia. Apparently the members of the Jihad-e Eslami and Hezbollahis had also been instructed to send some professional murderers to Saudi Arabia as hajj pilgrims.

All evidence shows that Khomeyni, in order to make up for his defeats in the war with Iraq, needed some other bloodbath diversion in the Islamic world. It was on this account that Musavi Kho'iniha, who could do nothing during last year's hajj due to the vigilance of the Saudi police and security force, was removed from his job and another religious mischief maker by the name of Mullah Mehdi Karrubi was appointed as leader of the hajj pilgrims. In his recent speech to Hezbollahis on hajj ceremonies and their duties therein, Khomeyni stressed that this year they must chant anti-American slogans and anti-Israel slogans, and carry out demonstrations, and create unrest in Mecca and Medina. Nobody should know what lay behind these demonstrations. In view of this document the Khomeyni plot was revealed to the people of the world by the Iran national resistance movement. Shahpur Bakhtiar alerted the people that as long as Khomeyni was alive and breathing, the Tehran regime will continue to indulge itself in bloody plots.

An invitation to Prince Faysal, the Saudi foreign minister, to visit Tehran was extended at exactly the time when the independent 110 Brigade had received instructions from Khomeyni to carry out crimes in Saudi Arabia. The duty which the Saudi police and security force performed against the first unit of the terrorist group of Khomeyni shows that the diplomatic channels of Tehran have not been able to hoodwink anybody.

Foreign Minister Assesses Libyan Visit

GF300726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs of our country, Mr Velayati, who had gone to the fraternal and friendly country of Libya at the head of delegation, arrived in Tehran early this morning. He noted the goals and results of his trip in an interview with our correspondent.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Velayati, tell us what were the goals of your trip to Libya and what were the results?

[Velayati] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The goal of the trip was to participate in the first session of the joint Iran-Libya committee. Highranking officials from both countries participated in the committee. Our delegation consisted of Mr Mohsen Rafiqdust, the respected Guards minister; Dr Hadi, deputy to the Majlis Defense Commission; the Iranian ambassador to Libya; myself, and the head of Political Department No 10. The Libyan delegation consisted of the foreign minister, Mr Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah; the minister of agriculture [titles as heard]; and a highranking member of the revolution committee together with two highranking military officials.

Various important topics were discussed during the two sessions of the committee and good and effective decisions were reached in the interests of both countries. The next session of the joint committee is to be held in Tehran. Various committees will follow up the decisions made during the sessions. Considering the many common views between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and our joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism, and their agents in the region, it is necessary for

us to be in contact at various levels at all times and coordinate our political actions and efforts in this sensitive part of the world. This was the goal of our trip.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much. [End recording]

Further Reportage on Visit of Ghanaian Envoy

Confers With Majlis Speaker

LD261653 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Mr Kojo Tsikata, special presidential adviser and the member of the ruling council of Ghana, and the oil minister of that country met Majlis speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday evening.

According to our correspondent's report, during this meeting attended by Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati, Mr Kojo Tsikata expressed the solidarity of the people and the revolutionary Government of Ghana with the people and the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran and said: The victory of Iran's revolution was important not only for Iran but for all those Third World countries struggling against the hegemony of imperialists.

He added: The revolution of the Iranian people is considered as a real danger by the reactionaries and U.S. imperialism. We have followed the successes achieved by your revolution at home and abroad and we believe that your struggle against imperialism is the same as that which began in Africa. There is great similarity between the revolution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and that of the Republic of Ghana.

The special presidential adviser of Ghana further said: As the president of Ghana clearly stressed in his message to Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, we believe this war has been imposed on you, and your fight in the defense of the revolution and sovereignty is the same as our struggles. You can rely on our support for the Islamic revolution despite the fact that we are not geographically close. He added: As for Afghanistan, we support the resolution for expelling the Soviet occupying forces from that country.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated: The domestic and foreign policies you espouse are very similar to ours. We are pleased to see that your country is taking the same path as that of Nkrumah [late African leader]. The problems in your country are typically those which are faced increasingly by the African countries due to world imperialism. We believe we are equipped to assist Third World countries; this we consider a duty. However, world imperialism understands this point and engages us in the imposed war so that we could not attain our principle goal of aiding the Third World countries to the extent desired. We would use some of the war expenses in the service of world struggles against hegemony, if this war not been imposed on us. In spite of all such problems we have not refrained from aiding Third World countries, and will continue on this path to attain our goals, considering our means.

The Majlis speaker concluded by saying: In addition to the oil trade, we prefer to purchase our required commodities from your country, should you agree to export them, rather than the wealthy countries.

Meets With Prime Minister

LD272342 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Tsikata, member of the Ghanaian provisional national defense council and special presidential adviser, met with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi this afternoon. Having declared the solidarity of the Ghanaian people and government with the Islamic Republic's people and government, Tsikata informed the prime minister on the internal situation and foreign policy of Ghana. He then said: We are carefullyfollowing the victory of the Islamic Revolution and its internal and foreign outcomes. We believe that the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the fall of the shah's regime have constituted an important change, not only for Iran, but for mankind. We do realize the social and economic achievements; we are of the opinion that reactionary regimes have become apprehensive of the victory of your revolution.

Having branded the Iraqi regime as the aggressor, the Ghanaian special adviser condemned Iraq's attacks against populated areas and its deployment of chemical weapons and, declaring the stances taken by Ghana with regard to the various international issues, stressed: Although geographically Ghana is very far from Iran, it nonetheless considers the victory of the Islamic republic as its own victory, and vice versa.

Afterward Prime Minister Musavi referred to the similiarities between the two countries in their fight against oppression, adding: Before the revolution, our country had no contacts with African nations. The shah's government, on the other hand, had the best of relations with the racist South African regime and the Ian Smith regime. The Islamic Republic regime, however, revamped all those equations. At present, considering that our revolution believes in the development of the region's cultural ideologies, it is considered a dangerous foe of imperialism. From the very first day our revolution has been subjected to profound conspiracies hatched by the United States.

The prime minister then added: We believe that opposing arrogant powers is possible only with the cooperation of the nations whose interests are served through a struggle against such powers. Only when there are no countries in the world subjected to aggression by imperialism will our victory be completed.

Received by Commerce Minister

LD281042 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 28 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Issues of mutual interest were discussed in a meeting between the Iranian minister of commerce, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari and the Ghanaian member of Provisional National Defence Council respnsible for National Security and Foreign Affairs, Kojo Tsikata here Saturday.

The Iranian minister explained the foreign trade policies of the Islamic Republic saying that Iran and Ghana were both members

of the Non-aligned Movement and had common grounds for cooperation.

The Ghanaian official said that his trip was aimed at strengthening friendly relations between the two countries, adding that with the expansion of political relations between the two countries, it is high time to expand commercial and economic reations as well. Ghana can export timber, woods, coca, coffee and bauxite to Iran, the Ghanaian visitor said.

Joint Statement Issued

LD282115 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 28 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 28, IRNA — Following is the joint statement issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) and the Republic of Ghana on the occasion of the visit of a high-ranking Ghanaian delegation, led by Kojo Tsikata member of Provisional National Defence Council (P.N.D.C.) to Tehran.

During its stay in Tehran, the delegation met and conferred with President 'Ali Khamene'i, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) [as received], Mr Hoseyn Musavi the prime minister, Dr. Velayati, Dr Fazel, R. Ja'fari ministers of foreign affairs, culture and high-education, and trade respectively and also the officials of the ministry of oil.

In the course of the meetings, both sides expressed their interest in the expansion of their political relations while stressing the necessity of consolidating their bilateral political ties and closer cooperation and coordination of ideas in the UN, NAM and other international fora.

The two condemned any kind of aggression made by one country against another, including the military attack made upon their [as received] by the Government of Iraq at a time when Iran needed tranquility to rebuild itself. Both sides condemned military attacks on residential areas and the civil population as well as attacks on commercial vessels. They also condemned the threats to civil aviation and the use of chemical weapons in the war.

Regarding Palestine and Lebanon, both sides expressed their support for the struggles of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples to liberate their land from Israeli occupation. The establishment of any kind of political, economic, cultural and other relations with Israel and South Africa were also condemned.

The two sides hailed the recent victory of the Lebanese patriotic forces resulting in the expulsion of Zionist forces from the southern part of the country, and expressed the hope that such struggles will continue in the future in the Middle East.

Mutual support was also expressed for the people of Sahara in their rightful struggle to determine their own fate, to substantiate the recent decisions of the OAU and to establish an independent government in that country. They called on Morocco to respect and implement the decisions of the OAU on the future of Sahara.

The puppet government of South Africa in Namibia was denounced by the two parties as illegitimate and invalid, and support was voiced for the people of Namibia in their liberating struggle led by SWAPO. They also condemned the aggressions of the racist regime of South Africa upon the frontline countries as well as the pressures exerted upon the people of South Africa and Namibia by the inhuman system of apartheid.

Both sides stressed their all-sided support for the oppressed people of South Africa in their rightful uprising to achieve self-determination and to totally eliminate the regime of apartheid, and called for an immediate end to the state of emergency that has been imposed on the people of South Africa.

Concern over the conditions in Chad was also expressed and external intervention in that country was condemned. They also called for the implementation of the OAU decisions and the self-determination of the people of Chad.

Both sides called for the strengthening of the economic relations existing among the African countries; moreover the two sides expressed the seeking of a fair solution to the repayment of the debts owed by these countries.

Both sides expressed their deep concern over the situation in Afghanistan and called for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces, and shared identical views that the people of Afghanistan must be granted their right of self-determination.

The two sides strongly condemnd U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the countries of Latin America especially Nicaragua and condemned the occupation of Grenada.

Both sides announced their commitment to the principles and objectives of the Non-aligned Movement and expressed their opposition to the interference of colonialist powers in the internal affairs of the Third World countries, particularly those located in the Middle East and Africa.

They also emphasized the need for efforts on the part of the NAM members to stop such aggressions and the necessity of purging undesirable members.

Finally, the two sides stressed the need for the improvement of the relations among the oppressed countries and the expansion of their cooperation in conjunction with the preservation of their political, economic, social and cultural independence.

Oil Agreement Ratified

LD290147 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jul 85

[Text] Mr Appiah Korang, the Ghanaian minister of fuel and power, before leaving Tehran today, met and conferred with our country's acting oil minister at the ministry.

During the meeting, an agreement on the sale of 10,000 barrels of oil daily to Ghana was ratified. The agreement is to run for 1 year; it will meet 50 percent of Ghana's fuel needs.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD281156 Tehran IRNA in English 1030 GMT 28 Jul 85

[Excerpt] Tehran July 28 IRNA — The visiting Ghanaian delegation headed by member of the Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC), Kojo Tsikata, left here Sunday morning. In an interview at Tehran Airport, Mr Tsikata who led the first politico-economic delegation from Ghana to the Islamic Republic, described the trip as a beginning in mutual political, cultural and economic exchanges between the two countries.

On the Iraqi imposed war, Tsikata stated that he had been informed of the developments in the war closely. "The devotion of the Iranian combatants greatly impressed me", he said. He further stated that Ghana supported peace between the two countries.

The visiting Ghanaian official also attacked the aggressive policies of the usurper regime of Israel and [words indistinct] condemned the crimes of the Zionist regime in the occupied lands. "We support the struggles of the Palestinian and Lebanese people vis-a-vis the oppression by the Zionists," said the PNDC member.

On the apartheid policy of the South African regime and the status of other African movements, Tsikata said Ghana was deeply sensitive towards the extering of apartheid policies by the Pretoria regime "and we support the struggles of the people of that country (South Africa) for independence and equality." He also reiterated the support of his country for the Namibian and SWAPO movements.

Tehran on Moscow's 'Infiltrating' Mideast Policy

LD272059 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1650 GMT 27 Jul 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] According to agency reports, Andrey Gromyko, the Soviet president, has voiced his opposition to the will of the Middle East Muslim ummah concerning the annihilation of the occupying Jerusalem regime. This is happening when one considers that since 1967 Moscow had ostensibly severed its diplomatic ties with the Tel Aviv regime. Nonetheless, it is a fact that the USSR was the first country to officially recognize Israel and, despite the aggressive military and terrorist policies pursued by Tel Aviv, the Soviet Union has yet to withdraw its recognition.

Having said that, what is at stake is Moscow's superpower interests in the Middle East. The Kremlin now feels that following the defeat of the United States and the occupying Jerusalem regime in Lebanon the time is propitious to expand its infiltrating policy in the Middle East. All international political quarters are unanimous in the belief that the defeat suffered by the Zionist regime in Lebanon has destabilized the U.S. role in the region. Washington can no longer act as a superpower capable of regulating relations between governments in the Middle East. There is no longer any talk of the invincibility myth of the Zionist regime's military power.

Although both Washington and Tel Aviv, through their propaganda and intimidating policies, continue to present themselves as indestructible powers, yet the fact remains that political destiny in the Islamic Middle East is now in the hands of the Muslim ummah and Islamic liberation movements. It is these movements that will determine the fate of the Middle East vis-a-vis international imperialism and Zionism.

It is by realizing these facts that the Kremlin is entertaining the idea of exploiting the situation and regulating events in its own interest. On the one hand, Washington's and Tel Aviv's aggressive policies in the Middle East have been defeated. Thus, from a superpower's and aggressor's viewpoint, the time [illegible]ight to enter into a deal with the other superpower as regards the Middle East. On the other hand, the growing revolutionary and Islamic trend in the Middle East is moving toward removing this strategic region from the sphere of influence of the two superpowers. Consequently, the Kremlin intends to prevent the growth of the danger threatening the arrogant survival of the two superpowers in the Middle East through reaching an agreement with Western imperialism and Zionism.

The fact is that Kremlin's policy on Palestine was never anything more than recognizing the usurping existence of the Jerusalem occupying regime and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Despite Tel Aviv's aggressive policies, the Kremlin never abandoned supporting the usurping existence of Palestine. If, in not too distant past, the USSR declared that Arab peoples' vital interests required the mobilization of anti-imperialist and patriotic forces of Arab countries in order to achieve success against imperialism and Zionism to guarantee a lasting peace in the Middle East, this meant that at the time the Kremlin believed the situation was not suitable for an infiltrating policy.

At that time the USSR could not yet depend on the efficiency of revolutionary and Muslim forces in the Middle East in defeating Western imperialism and Zionism. However, now that the USSR realizes this, it intends to implement its old plan to participate in the Middle East events.

The Kremlin has always been committed to the idea of asserting its presence in the region by holding an international conference with the participation of the USSR and the United States. Moscow now feels that the time has arrived. Therefore, on the one hand, the USSR promises Tel Aviv that it will continue as before to defend its usurping existence vis-a-vis Islamic liberation movements and, on the other, it exhorts Arab countries to recover their territories. In this double-standard policy Moscow is solely concerned with recovery of the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of the Jordan River; it makes no mention of liberating Palestine. But, this is not what the Muslim and revolutionary ummah of the Middle East have in mind. The fact is that the Muslim peoples of the Middle East, who are thinking of the liberation of the whole of the Middle East within the context of revolutionary and Islamic movements, view Israel from a different angle.

The core of the issue, however, is concerned with how it is perceived; from a revolutionary and Islamic angle, Israel is construed to have been created through aggression. Therefore,

its foundations are based on usurpation. Thus, this existence shall never and under no condition be considered legitimate. As far as the Muslim ummah of the Middle East is concerned, to recongize the usurping Zionist regime is tantamount to accepting the occupation of the territories of others through aggression. Gromyko's utterances on reaffirming the recognition of Israel as an independent and sovereign state are therefore tantamount to accepting aggression and the occupation of Arab and the region's Muslim territories; it means ignoring the rights of heroic Palestinian nation and condoning all the crimes committed by Zionism.

As far as Islamic movements, which embrace the Muslim ummah of the Middle East, are concerned the recognition of a regime which has been created by means of terrorism, a regime which enjoys the financial backing of Mafia-like organizations, is contrary to all legal and humane standards. If Moscow intends to help Western imperialism and international Zionism in crushing revolutionary and liberation movements in return for certain favors in the Middle East -- thus eliminating the principal and existing threat posed against the survival of the two arrogant superpowers as well -- it should remember that existing realities point to the fact that imperialism's life in the Middle East is has ended. This policy which is being pursued by the Kremlin is doomed to failure.

Both Moscow and Washington wish to dominate the Middle East, each pursuing its own particular policy. History proves that the two superpowers are only concerned with their own interests, whether they employ a certain policy or talk of an aggressive war. At any rate, the Muslim ummah of the Middle East speaks differently. The ummah speaks of armed struggle, aimed at drying up all the arrogant roots. This is the story of the Middle East, a story about the will of faithful and awakened peoples who aspire to the liberation of all the Islamic states in the Middle East. There is no doubt that they see victory at hand.

Lebanon's Fadlallah on Palestinians, Mideast Peace

LD270726 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 27 Jul 85

["Shaykh Fadlallah Warns Against Zionist Plot" — IRNA heading]

[Text] Beirut, July 27 IRNA — A prominent religious leader has warned against a plot to create a Lebanese-Palestinian war in Lebanon but predicted that the scheme would be thwarted because according to him Lebanese group were not prepared to get involved in such an encounter.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with IRNA here this week, Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah further stated that the enemies were trying to pit Islamic groups against each other in Sidon and warned that this was a plot by the Zionist regime so that it could implement its schemes.

Shaykh Fadlallah also said that the crisis in Lebanon and the Middle East peace plan will be suspended until the next Soviet-U.S. summit meet and that the United States was trying to afflict Muslims in Lebanon with a fate similar to that of the Palestinians by portraying them (the Muslim groups) as terrorists.

He said the crisis in Lebanon was continuing in its two internal and external dimensions. Inside the country, he said, the people were endeavoring to remove the present ruling regime through a ceaseless struggle. On the other hand, he added, many countries in the region and elsewhere in the world deemed suitable the scene in Lebanon whereby to achieve their objectives, like the solving of the Palestine issue on the condition that the interests of imperialism are secured and the United States would dominate the region.

For this reason, Shaykh Fadlallah pointed out, the engineers of this policy were trying to keep the situation in a status quo until the summit meet of the two superpwoers in convened. "That is why, in reaching a compromise on the Palestine issue, they are just wasting time by replacing participating members in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation," said the religious leader.

On the possibility of establishing an Islamic state in Lebanon, Fadlallah stated that "at the present stage, we have declared the Islamic military plan in Lebanon as a strategy and believe that the ground is not yet prepared for the establishment of an Islamic system of government in the country." The most important issue at the present time was to abolish the present rule in Lebanon, he said, adding that "We have no opposition with Shaykh Shams al-Din's plan to establish a democratic system in the future stage. He said the best result of this plan would be the fall of the present regime following which the ground for an Islamic system of government would be paved. (Shaykh Shams al-Din is vice-speaker of the Lebanese Shi'ites Supreme Assembly.)

On the aggressive policies of the United States in the region and its empty claims of campaigning against terrorism, Shaykh Fadlallah said by portraying real Muslims as terrorists, the U.S. aimed at deviating the public opinion so that it could inflict its blow in the Islamic forces by preparing a suitable ground. He said the U.S. carried out a similar policy against the Palestinians. It paved the way for the Zionist regime's invasion of Lebanon by introducing the Palestinians as terrorists and then forced the Palestinian forces to withdraw from Lebanon and made the PLO leaders give in to compromise.

"Although we are aware of the empty maneuvers of the U.S. policy, at the same time we should not disregard the possible dangers of this policy, and before any action we must take into consideration our interests and losses," concluded Fadlallah.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Khorramshahr Shelled by Iraq

GF291511 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] As a result of the shelling of Khorramshahr by the hirelings of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime during the past 24 hours, some parts of the city sustained damage and one area was set ablaze. According to the IRNA correspondent, due to enemy shelling of Minu Island, 100 (?barrels) of oil caught fire.

Badr Brigade Commander on Operations

GF291625 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] One of the commanders of the Iraqi Muslim revolutionary operations in the Jerusalem IV operations spoke to our correspondent on the details of these victorious operations. In these operations, our forces embarked on detailed reconnaissance of the area in three axes. In a coordinated and organized manner at 2400 hours [2050 GMT], our forces advanced by using boats and using hand grenades and other armaments, and kept the area under fire. After 15 minutes, they succeeded in occupying their predetermined objectives.

He added: In these operations, named Jerusalem IV, the 9th Badr Brigade was successful in liberating Umm al-Na'aj Lake, which is of great military and economic importance to the Zionist Iraqi regime, and in liberating an area of 150 square kms from the filth of the infidel Saddamists. A large number of Iraqi Armed Forces personnel were killed or wounded. This commander of operations continued his report, referring to the complete coordination of the Muslim Iraqi revolutionaries with the other Islamic combatants on the war fronts with the Zionist enemy, adding: The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries — by carrying out Jerusalem IV operations to express their hatred and loathing of the tyrannical Iraqi ruling regime — once again proved that they will not rest for a moment in their sacred struggle, side by side with the other Islamic combatants in continuing the war until final victory and the toppling of the Iraqi Zionist regime.

In this interview he alluded to the formation of the Badr Brigade comprised of the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries and said: A large number of Muslim Iraqi brothers who were fed up with the tyranny and cruelty of the Aflaqite Saddam regime considered the assistance of the Islamic regime a canonical obligation and migrated to Iran, of their own free will, so that they could show the world they are supporters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the leadership of Imam Khomeyni. These refugee brothers established a brigade affiliated to the forces of the martyred Mohammad Baqer-Sadr so that they might carry out operations alongside their noble forces of Islam.

The commander of operations of the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries said, while praying for the success of Islam and Muslims and final victory of able Islamic combatants, asked the Iraqi brothers to rise up in support of Islam and the Islamic Republic, like the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, and take their revenge on the criminal Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi regime.

Journalists To View Operation Areas

LD291659 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters Monday invited foreign journalists to come to Iran and visit areas that have been liberated in the recent Qods operations of the Iranian forces. The announcement of the WIH said while the Iraqi regime was denying the victories of the Iranian forces in Qods Operations so as to boost the low morale of Iraqi troops, foreign journalists are invited to come to Iran and visit the liberated areas. All interested journalists are advised to contact Iranian Embassies so as to arrange for their visit.

Communique No 2,180

LD291707 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 29 Jul 85

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — Iranian forces killed or wounded 20 Iraqi troops and destroyed ten of their bunkers in artillery clashes that took place in the central war front over the past 24 hours, communique 2180 issued Monday by the Joint Staff command said.

The communique said one Iraqi tank and at least two mortar launchers were damaged in these clashes. It said enemy patrols that tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in southern front as well as the Sumar region of the central front were forced to flee by Iranian forces.

Reporting combat from the northern sector of the war fronts, the communique added that an undetermined number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and three enemy bases destroyed in these clashes. It said enemy air raids in the region were thwarted by the heavy fire of Iranian anti-air batteries.

Iraq's long range artillary fire damaged four shops and six houses in the port city of Abadan. Khorramshahr was also hit by the Iraqi shelling. Iranian Gendarmierie units killed or wounded a number of Iraqi troops and destroyed some of their fortification over the past 24 hours.

300 Iraqis Killed in North

LD291751 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 29 Jul 85

["Iraq Suffers Heavy Casualties in Lightning Operation" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — The Muslim combatants of Iran infiltrated Iraqi positions Sunday night in the northwestern front killing or wounding a total of 300 enemy troops, announced the Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters of the IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guard Corps] and the Armed Forces Monday.

The attack was aimed at destroying enemy forces and cutting off supply routes of the counterrevolutionary elements in the region, the headquarters said. It said a number of Iraqi troops were captured and a significant ammount of enemy ammunition destroyed. The combatants have recently launched a number of limited offensives aimed at destroying enemy troops and positions. An IRNA correspondent from the front lines said the offensive came at 23:20 (19:50 GMT) Sunday in northeast of Iraq's Kurdistan Province.

Tehran Reports Iraq Casualties

GF300640 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Jul 85

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced the following: The high-flying

fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out a series of operations outside the Iranian borders at 1152 [0820 GMT] yesterday, bombing enemy communication lines between Shivan and Sayyid Khan in Iraq and inflicting casualties and damage on the enemy forces. The warriors of Islam in a combat mission managed to destroy an enemy base, wound or kill 20 enemy personnel, and return to their own base safely.

In the northern theaters of operation, the warriors of Islam set three enemy bases on fire, inflicting casualties and damage. In the central operational sector, exchange of artillery fire continued and our fighters destroyed over 10 enemy bunkers, wounded or killed 20 Saddamists, damaged a tank and two mortar launchers. The alertness of our combatants stopped the infiltration of enemy patrol units in the Sumar region and forced the enemy to flee.

In the southern operational theater, our forces fired on enemy patrol units and inflicted casualties and damage. They stopped enemy infiltration attempts in Eynkhosh, Yaddis, and Nahr-Anbar, forcing them to flee. The Gendarmerie forces defended their positions and with effective fire against enemy positions killed or wounded a number of Iraqi Army personnel while destroying some bunkers.